

Amendments to the CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for immunizing a host mammal to produce ~~producing~~ a population of monoclonal antibodies that bind to antigens representative of a specific cell type that are heterologous to a host mammal, comprising ~~immunizing~~ introducing into the host mammal ~~with a plurality of viable and intact cells of said cell type; fusing lymphoid cells from the immunized mammal with an immortalized cell line to produce hybridomas that secrete monoclonal antibodies; culturing the hybridomas under the conditions favorable for the secretion of monoclonal antibodies; and selecting the hybridomas that secrete monoclonal antibodies binding to surface antigens present on the viable and intact cells, wherein the surfaces of the cells are free of serum and~~ the cells are introduced into the mammal without adjuvant.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells have been cultured in a serum-free medium.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells have been grown in the form of a monolayer.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells have been grown in the form of aggregates.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells have been grown on a biological or a non-biological substrate.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 5, wherein the biological substrate is selected from the group consisting of collagen, fibronectin, laminin, and poly-lysine.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 5, wherein the non-biological substrate is selected from the group consisting of nitrocellulose, nylon, and polytetrafluoroethylene membrane.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells are of embryonic or adult origin.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells are of ectodermal, or endodermal or mesodermal origin.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the cells are selected from the group consisting of adult rat Schwann cells (ASC), embryonic rat Schwann cells (ESC), rat granulosa cell line (ROG), rat embryonic pancreatic buds epithelial cell line (BUD), rat ductal epithelium (RED), non-obese diabetic mouse pancreatic ductal epithelial cell line (NODD), neonatal lung epithelial cell line (BR516), rat lung bronchiolar epithelial cell line (RL-65), and rat neuroepithelial cell line (NEP) cells.

Claims 11-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method ~~for producing a population of monoclonal antibodies according to~~ of claim 1, wherein at least one of the monoclonal antibodies bind binds to an antigen on the cell surface ~~extracellular domain of the cell surface antigens~~.

Claims 16-17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A method for producing lymphoid cells useful for immunizing a host mammal to produce monoclonal antibodies that bind to antigens representative of a specific cell type that are heterologous to the host mammal, comprising introducing into the mammal a

plurality of viable and intact cells of said cell type, wherein the surfaces of the cells are free of serum.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells have been cultured in a serum-free medium.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells have been grown in the form of a monolayer.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells have been grown in the form of aggregates.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells have been grown on a biological or a non-biological substrate.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 22, wherein the biological substrate is selected from the group consisting of collagen, fibronectin, laminin, and poly-lysine.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 22, wherein the non-biological substrate is selected from the group consisting of nitrocellulose, nylon, and polytetrafluoroethylene membrane.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells are of embryonic or adult origin.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells are of ectodermal, or endodermal or mesodermal origin.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The method for producing lymphoid cells according to claim 18, wherein the cells are selected from the group consisting of ASC, ESC, ROG, BUD, RED, NODD, BR516, RL-65, and NEP cells.